

NUISANCE NOTES

October 1997

Western Update, No.5



WESTERN REGIONAL PANEL ON AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES - FIRST MEETING

The first forum and meeting of the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance was held in Portland, OR on July 8-9, 1997. Close to 80 representatives of public and private sector organizations and state legislators in western North America, Guam and Hawaii met to attend the forum and organizational meeting. Attendees spent the first day becoming acquainted with invasive species issues through presentations by leading researchers and resource managers. Topics included; ballast water introductions, zebra mussel expansion, aquatic weed prevention and control and legislative and policy frameworks. The second day attendees began the tasks of Panel organization and development of draft work plans. Education/Outreach, Legislative/Policy and Management/Research Committees were formed to assist in work plan development. These draft work plans, initiated by the participants to guide the WRP as it works to prevent and control the spread of nuisance exotics should be finalized by the WRP in 1998. For more information contact Linda Drees, WRP coordinator @785-539-3474 X20 or Linda_Drees@fws.gov

THE 100TH MERIDIAN INITIATIVE

The USFWS is promoting the 100th Meridian Initiative as an opportunity to prevent or substantially slow the spread of zebra mussels into western North America. Recognizing that a major pathway by which zebra mussels will be spread into the West is on boats and related equipment the USFWS proposes to support states develop voluntary random boat inspection programs. To enhance the effectiveness of the inspection effort, a comprehensive information and education campaign will be undertaken within and to the east of the 100th Meridian. A meeting to discuss the proposed initiative with state and federal cooperators is set for November 20, 1997 in Kansas City, MO. This meeting is held in conjunction with a Zebra Mussel Monitoring and Information Workshop on November 18-19, 1997 in Kansas City at the Wyndham Gardens Hotel on Country Club Plaza. For more information contact Linda Drees@785-539-3474X20.

STATE UPDATE

ALASKA WRP State Contact Jay Nelson (907-465-3975)

ARIZONA AZ Game and Fish Department and the Bureau of Reclamation are developing dock signs to educate boaters and anglers on how to prevent the spread of nuisance aquatic exotics. State WRP Contact Joe Janisch, AGFD (602-789-3258).

CALIFORNIA A Zebra Mussel Monitoring and Information Workshop for Water Users will be held in conjunction with the annual International Zebra Mussel Conference in Sacramento, March 16-19 (for information contact Jodi Cossel CA Sea Grant 415-871-7559). A pilot control program for *Egeria densa* is being developed by the Department of Boating and Waterways. State WRP Contact Randy Brown California Department of Water Resources (916)227-7531.

COLORADO Since 1993, the Colorado Division of Wildlife in cooperation with local governments in the Denver areas have been attempting to eradicate purple loosestrife in the Denver-Metro area. It is believed that purple loose strife was introduced into CO by ornamental plantings. The exotic is known to occur in only 4 areas of the state (for information contact Dave Weber 303-291-7231) State WRP Contact Chuck Loeffler Colorado Division of Wildlife (303)291-7451.

IDAHO State WZMTF Contact Bill Horton, Idaho Fish and Game Department (208-334-3791).

KANSAS The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and Western Resources jointly supported development and posting of zebra mussel dock signs as part of a cooperative project to educate boaters and anglers on how to prevent exotic spread. Patrick Cassidy, Board of Public Utilities (913-573-9856) or State WRP Contact Tom Mosher 316-342-0658.

MONTANA State WZMTF Contact Tim Gallagher, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (406-444-2448).

NEBRASKA Nebraska Game and Parks, NE Public Power District, Metropolitan Utilities District and Omaha Public Power District have jointly supported development and posting of zebra mussel dock signs as part of a cooperative project to educate boaters and anglers on how to prevent exotic spread. Formal monitoring at several public utilities. State WZMTF Contact Steve Schainost Nebraska Game and Parks (402-471-5443).

NEVADA State WRP Contact Jon Sjoberg, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife (702-486-5127).

NEW MEXICO State review conducted on importation and husbandry of marine shrimp State WRP Contact Brian Lang, New Mexico Game and Fish Department (505-827-9904).

NORTH DAKOTA Recent survey of the Service River shows absence of Eurasian Water Milfoil. Former infestations appear not to have survived State WRP Contact Terry Steinwand North Dakota Game and Fish Department (701-328-6313).

OKLAHOMA Formal monitoring for zebra mussels at Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation facilities. WZMTF Contact Everett Laney, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (918-669-7411).

OREGON Oregon Sea Grant is sponsoring a Green Crab Work Shop Feb. 9-10, 1998, for more information contact 206-543-2821. State Contact Andrew Schaedel Oregon Department of Environment 503-229-6121

SOUTH DAKOTA WRP Contact Dennis Unkenholz-605-733-6770 South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department

TEXAS State is participating in 100th Meridian Initiative. State WRP Contact Larry McKinney 512-389-4394.

UTAH Purple loosestrife identified in Utah but limited in range. Control programs underway. Contact Randy Radant, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (801-538-4812).

WASHINGTON Exotics species coordinator hired in Washington Depart of Fish and Wildlife started Oct. 1, 1997. Spartina workshop held to between BC and Washington call John Armstrong. Implementation plan selected 4 committees and Education, Monitoring/Research, Legislative, Management Prevention Control WZMTF Contact Bill Zook WDFW (360-902-2328).

WYOMING Regulations as of March 31st, 1999 will place a ban on live bait fish import by anglers and live bait dealers. Meetings held on the proposed regulations provided background on impact of exotics on native species. WRP Contact Mike Stone, Wyoming Game and Fish Department (307-777-4559).

PROVINCIAL UPDATE

ALBERTA Contact Rob Burland, Alberta Environmental Protection (403-382-4015)

BRITISH COLUMBIA Contact Bob Truelson British Columbia Ministry of Environment, Land, and Parks (250-387-9492).

MANITOBA Monitoring in Manitoba indicates no movement of zebra mussels into the province. Municipalities continue educating target populations regarding zebra mussel prevention efforts. Contact Dwight Williamson, Manitoba Department of the Environment (204-945-7030).

SASKATCHEWAN Contact Rick Sanden, Saskatchewan Department of Environment and Resource Management (306-787-7812).

FEDERAL UPDATE

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE Nonindigenous coordinators are available to provide technical assistance to state, federal, and private interests in regard to zebra mussels. Region I (CA,OR,WA,ID,NE,HI) - John Byrne, Portland, OR (503-230-5973), Region 2 (TX,NM,OK,AZ) - Bob Pitman, Tishomingo, OK (405-384-5710), and Region 6 (MT,WY,UT,CO,ND,SD,NE,KS) - Linda Drees, Manhattan, KS (785 539-3474X20). National ANS Coordinator, Arlington, VA-Bob Peoples/Jay Troxel-(703-358-1718).

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION The Bureau of Reclamation WZMTF homepage can be accessed at <http://www.usbr.gov/zebra/wzmtf.html>. For further information contact BOR (303-236-6007). Bureau of Reclamation has developed a model template for zebra mussel signs. The signs can be individually adapted for local, state, and federal agencies and ordered directly from manufacturer. For information contact Tracie Greene (303-236-6007 X288).

NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL SERVICE Southeastern Biological Science Center The Center maintains a nonindigenous aquatic species geographic information system and current zebra mussel location maps. Information can be obtained through a World Wide Web server (<http://www.nfrcg.gov>) or by contacting Amy Bensen (904-378-8181).

SEA GRANT The National Sea Grant College Program is funding a number of research and education projects for aquatic nuisance species on the west coast (301 -713-2431) California Sea Grant implementing a zebra mussel boater education project in the 12 county San Francisco Bay Delta area and is hosting the International Zebra Mussel and other Aquatic Nuisance Species Contact New York Sea Grant maintains a zebra mussel information clearinghouse and publishes an information review, *Dreissena polymorpha*. Contact Charles O'Neill, Jr. (716-395-2638). Minnesota Sea Grant publishes and distributes information, training packets and videos on zebra mussels and other exotic species, including the updated instructor notebook and packet "Mussel Menace". MN will take lead on a Great Lakes SG project to work with baitfish and aquaculture industries to develop model plans to keep products aquatic nuisance free. Contact Doug Jensen (218-726-8712).

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS North Pacific Division The NPD of the Corps is monitoring for zebra mussels in the Columbia River Basin. To date no z.m. have been identified. The COE is installing z.m. education dock signs along the Columbia River. Contact Jim Athern (503-808-3935).

PUBLICATIONS

I. **ANS Digest** This quarterly publication, published by the Freshwater Foundation in cooperation with the Great Lake Commission and funding by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Great Lake and Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, provides information on "many aspects of the aquatic nuisance species problem including, policy and management issues, current research efforts, and descriptions of specific species." For more information, contact *ANS Digest*, The Freshwater Foundation, Spring Hill Center, 725 County Road Six, Wazata, MN 55391 (612-449-0092).

MEETINGS

Heartland Zebra Mussel Monitoring and Information Workshop and 100th Meridian Work Session November 18-20, 1997, Wyndham Garden Hotel on the Plaza, Kansas City, MO. Workshop designed for water users, resource managers attempting to develop prevention and control programs in the midwest. Additionally, public and private sector representatives will meet to attend the 100th Meridian Work Session to design strategies to stop exotic nuisance species spread past beyond the 100th meridian. For more information contact Linda Drees USFWS 785-539-3474 X 20 or Tracie Greene, BOR 303-236-6007 X288.

Eighth International Zebra Mussel and Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference, March 16-18, 1998. The International will be held in Sacramento, CA at the Double Tree Hotel. Researchers and Managers from around the world will present on a variety of exotic species prevention and control topics. For more information call 1-800-868-8776.

Green Crab Conference February 9-10th, 1998 in Portland area.

